

4 Aug 1843

My dear Sir

One of your three Gent's
Mags I return with many thanks.
I wanted it for "The Allego Papers" vol.
I have been preparing for the Shake-
speare Society, in order that it may
be ready when wanted.

My presence at the last
Council of the Camden Society was
~~necessary~~, in as much as I have to
pay our friend Thomas £2 for my re-
pew, who put it into my hands
some time ago. An accident of a serious

kind (I mean serious as regards his pocket) which helped a friend of mine detained me beyond the hour. Anyhow makes the best Chairman of the two, but it is a grace to get a Peer to preside - & moreover it is useful. I suppose that the business must have been merely routine.

I recollect nothing of the letter of Sir P. Sidney to which you allude. I should doubt whether "my Lord of Leicester's jisting player Will" be Kemp; but it may be so. Kemp does not seem to have attained much reputation until after the death of Tarlton in 1588 - There was a William Johnson one of Lord Leicester's players in 1574 - who knows but it may have been ^{Will} Shakespeare himself? It is a curious matter of spe-

culaton, and will answer admirably for the Transactions, as well as the points you mention about one of Ardens & a Comber.

It seems very likely indeed that Lord Leicester's players went with him into the Low Countries. It affords another proof (as far as it may be called proof) that English Actors were well known abroad by their performances on the Continent. Among the "Allegre Papers" is one which shows that an actor of the name of Jones was going abroad "with a company", but it has no date.

Nothing of this kind can be "trifling" to use your own word.

Yours very sincerely

Victoria Road
Kennington

J. Payne Collier

Aug. 4. 1843.

John Bruce Esq.